



# *Guiding Light*

SEPTEMBER, 2025



## **TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH** *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

1011 Sheppard Avenue West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3H 2T7  
416 - 534 - 4302 [www.tbc.on.ca](http://www.tbc.on.ca)

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

|                         |  | <b>KIDS<br/>SANGHA</b>        | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>10:45 AM<br/>DHARMA<br/>TALK<br/>(JAPANESE)</b> |                         |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
|                         |  | <b>In Person</b>              | <b>In Person &amp; Zoom</b> | <b>In Person,<br/>ONLY</b>                         |                         |
| <b>SEPTEMBER<br/>7</b>  | <b>MONTHLY<br/>MEMORIAL<br/>SERVICE<br/>(SHOTSUKI)</b> | <b>10:30 AM<br/>MEZZANINE</b> | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>10:45 AM</b>                                    | <b>RALLY<br/>SUNDAY</b> |
| <b>SEPTEMBER<br/>14</b> | <b>REGULAR<br/>SERVICE</b>                             | <b>10:30 AM</b>               | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>NONE</b>  |                         |
| <b>SEPTEMBER<br/>21</b> | <b>REGULAR<br/>SERVICE</b>                             | <b>10:30 AM</b>               | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>NONE</b>  | <b>OHIGAN</b>           |
| <b>SEPTEMBER<br/>28</b> | <b>REGULAR<br/>SERVICE</b>                             | <b>10:30 AM</b>               | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>NONE</b>  |                         |
| <b>OCTOBER 5</b>        | <b>MONTHLY<br/>MEMORIAL<br/>SERVICE<br/>(SHOTSUKI)</b> | <b>10:30 AM<br/>MEZZANINE</b> | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>10:45 AM</b>                                    |                         |
| <b>OCTOBER 12</b>       | <b>REGULAR<br/>SERVICE</b>                             | <b>10:30 AM</b>               | <b>11:00 AM</b>             | <b>NONE</b>  |                         |

**ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS****JAPANESE SHOTSUKI SERVICES \* TIME \* HAS CHANGED**

**\*\* 10:45 AM - 11:00 AM  
11:00 AM**

**DHARMA TALK IN JAPANESE  
ENGLISH SHOTSUKI SERVICE**

**Makuragyo (Pillow-side) Service**

When families consider having a Pillow-side service (Makuragyo) they are encouraged to notify the Temple with advance notice. This offers the Temple members time to adjust their schedule, accordingly. Depending on the wishes of the family, the Temple member is quite prepared to conduct the service immediately following the passing away of the loved one. The family may prefer to have the service at an earlier time so that more family members can attend the service. Providing information, before passing away, is important for the Temple member too, not only to adjust their schedule but to

prepare for the service. The early contact with the Temple member also provides an opportunity for them to offer information and answer questions the family may have. Please call the Temple at 416-534-4302 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as someone is available. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**Board of Directors**



## **STEPPING FORWARD AGAIN WITH THE NEMBUTSU**

How was your summer this year?

The long summer has passed, and now the September breeze gently tells us that autumn is on its way. Looking back, I feel that this summer was filled with many experiences—from our own Bon Odori, to attending Steveston Buddhist

Temple's Bon Odori where I was invited as a guest speaker, to visiting a Japan Festival organized by one of our TBC Youth members at their university, to Camp Lumbini, and even joining a JCBL baseball game.

In mid-August, I had the chance to attend a lecture by a university professor of religious studies. The lecture focused on Buddhist ministers in Japan—people living in temple environments, which differ in many ways from ordinary households. For most people there, the stories of temple life in Japan were completely new and fresh. But for me, having grown up in a temple and knowing fellow ministers, the content resonated deeply and was very interesting. What struck me most was the professor's reason for focusing on the lives of ministers, rather than the doctrines they teach:

“Religion spreads through individuals—so I wanted to look there.”

Hearing this reminded me of something a temple member once told me in Japan, when I had the opportunity to share a Dharma talk at a rural temple during my graduate school training:

“I don't come to the temple to hear an entertaining story from you. If that's what I wanted, I'd go to a comedy show. I come because I want to hear Amida's precious teaching through you as a person.”

Those words still guide me whenever I prepare a Dharma talk.

Even though temples and organizations exist, the Dharma is always transmitted from person to person—through the “medium” of an individual. For many of us, our encounter with the Buddha's teaching began with someone's words, actions, or way of life that made us think, “I want to be like that person” or “I want to hear more from them.” Shinran Shonin's teachings spread not only through his writings, but through disciples and temple members who met him directly. It was never just about

passing on information—it was about a living connection: “This person rejoices in the Nembutsu, so I want to hear it too.”

If we think about it, one reason we come to Sunday services or special memorials is because we want to meet those who cherish the teaching, or to feel the atmosphere of that gathering. Each of these encounters becomes a chance to receive the Dharma and, in turn, to share it with others. The idea that “religion spreads through individuals” is not just a theory—it is something we experience here and now.

In Japan, April marks the start of the school and work year. Here at Toronto Buddhist Church, we begin our temple year with “Rally Sunday.” This term comes from Christian churches in North America and refers to a special day when members return after the summer break, gathering to begin a new year of worship, Sunday School, and activities. I suspect that few other Jodo Shinshu temples in Canada or the U.S. use this term—it was new to me before I began working here.

From this September, we will also begin something new for our Sunday services. On the fourth Sunday of each month, we will hold a Family Service. On this day, the children who usually have Sunday School classes downstairs will join the Hondo for service together with the adults.

This change comes from our wish to have all generations gather in the same space to recite the Nembutsu and hear the Buddha's teaching together. For the children, it will be a chance to see the naijin (altar area) up close and to experience the flow of the service. For the adults, having the children's voices and presence in the Hondo will bring fresh joy and energy to our practice.

Our connection to Jodo Shinshu does not suddenly begin when we are adults. The Nembutsu and Dharma talks we naturally hear as children, together with adults, can resurface in our hearts during important moments or difficult times later in life. I hope that the Family Service will be such a place.

Please join with your whole family. Invite not only your children or grandchildren, but also friends and neighbours. From September onward, let us share the joy of coming together in the Hondo, joining our hands, and reciting Namo Amida Butsu.

In gassho,

Kensho Hashimoto

## **NEEDED FOR CAMP LUMBINI**

Are you renovating your kitchen or upgrading your appliances? Camp Lumbini could use your help!

The electric stove in the cabin used during Kid's Camp Lumbini Week is in need of replacement. If you have a working electric stove you're no longer using—or know someone who does—please consider donating it to support our camp activities.

To donate or learn more, please contact the office – 416-534-4302 or [tbc@tbc.on.ca](mailto:tbc@tbc.on.ca).

Thank you for helping us keep the spirit of Camp Lumbini alive and well!



**Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of October**

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month to remember and honour those who have passed away in that month regardless of year.

Usually, mail reminders are sent out to the next of kin but due to changing circumstances we have not always been able to reach families and hope that by publishing the names of those who have passed, we can still reach and remind families and dear friends of the month of their loved ones honouring. Below is our listing of our members and supporters who have passed away during the month of **October**. All are invited and welcome to attend.

|                            |                                |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ADACHI, Ogen               | INAMOTO, Kenneth Kenji         | NAKAO, Haru                      | TAKASAKI, Shizue          |
| AKADA, Asa                 | ISHII, Mitsuye                 | NARUSE, Tadayoshi                | TAKATA, Moriyuki          |
| AKADA, Sadajiro            | ISHIKAWA, Hiroko               | NISHIJIMA, Toshio                | TAKEMURA, Masa            |
| AMEMORI, Suye              | IWASAKI, Tokino                | NISHIKAWA, Misao                 | TAKEUCHI, Terry Teruo     |
| ARIZA, Nancy Chiyo         | KAGAYAMA, Shizuyo              | NISHIKAWA, Misao Mae             | TAMAKI, Glen Atsushi      |
| ASA, Yasuko                | KAINO, Fumiyo                  | NISHIKAWA, Toshie                | TANABE, Yoshiko Mary      |
| ASADA, Kiyomi              | KAJI, Matsuyo                  | NISHIMOTO, Kenneth Kenji         | TANAKA, Arataro           |
| AZUMA, Momoyo Jane         | KAWABATA, Kazuo Mike           | NISHIMURA, Chiyoji               | TANAKA, Hisao             |
| BABA, Donna May            | KAWAGUCHI, Kiyoko              | NISHIMURA, George Gengo          | TANAKA, Juhei             |
| BELAIR, Keiko              | KAWAI, Tetsutaro               | NISHIMURA, Jutaro                | TANAKA, Thomas Sanya      |
| BRATHUHIN, Tamiko          | KISHIBE, Masayuki              | NISHIMURA, Shige                 | TANAKA, Yaye              |
| DOBSON, John Charles       | KITAGAWA, Tsuneya              | NISHIMURA, Yutaka Glenn          | TANINO, Eikichi           |
| EDAMURA, Ken Edward        | KITAMURA, Frank Osamu          | NISHINO, Terrie Tsuruye          | TANINO, Kenneth Susumu    |
| FUJII, Mary                | KITAURA, Ryotaro               | NITTA, Jean Yuri                 | TATEBE, Yoko Joyce        |
| FUJIMOTO, Noboru           | KIYONAGA, Kikuye Kay           | NOMA, Michiko                    | TESHIMA, George Yukio     |
| FUJINO, Dorothy Shizuko    | KOBAYASHI, Osamu               | OHASHI, Hirokichi                | TOHANA, Sachiko Ruby      |
| FUJINO, Sude               | KOBYASHI, Patrick Mitsuharu    | NOSE, Seizo                      | TOYONAGA, Matsuko         |
| FUJIOKA, Toshio            | KOBAYASHI, Shigezo             | NOSE, Mitsuko                    | TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi Thomas |
| FUJIOKA, Teruko Terri      | KODAMA, Suekichi               | OHARA, Noye                      | TSUJI, Shizue             |
| FUKAKUSA, Tamotsu          | KONDO, Roy Iwao                | OHASHI, Take                     | URA, Jim Iwao             |
| FUKAKUSA, Kameki           | KOZAI, Susumu                  | OHATA, Masayuki                  | URABE, Emiko Gertrude     |
| FUKAKUSA, Yasutaro         | KUBOTA, Shigeo                 | OHASHI, Take                     | WAKABAYASHI, Fusae        |
| FUKUMOTO, Toyemon          | KUMABE, Jinzo                  | OKIHIRO, Hisa                    | WAKABAYASHI, Koto         |
| FUKUSHIMA, Kazuo "Charlie" | MATSUI, Kane                   | OMATSU, Kinu                     | WAKABAYASHI, Mitsuko      |
| GOTO, Teruji Tin           | MATSUSHITA, Chieko             | SAITO, Shiro                     | WAKABAYASHI, Takeo        |
| HAMADE, Shingo             | MICHIBATA, Suyeko              | SAKAMOTO, Kimi                   | WAKABAYASHI, Tokuzo       |
| HAMAWAKI, Margaret Fujiye  | MIYADA, Takashi                | SATO, Teruko Terrie              | WAKIDA, Ei                |
| HANAZAWA, Toku             | MORI, Charles "Chuck" Kazuhiko | SHIGEISHI, Sally Shizue          | WAKISAKA, Tsugi           |
| HATANAKA, Kenichi Ken      | MUKAI, Hikojiro                | SHIMIZU, Kaide                   | WANI, Juichi              |
| HOBZA, Patricia Akemi      | MURAI, Kofuji                  | SHINMOTO, Saichi                 | WATANABE, Molly Nobuko    |
| HORII, Kiyoshi             | MURAKAMI, Katsuji              | SHINTANI, Sueno                  | YAMAGUCHI, Masako         |
| HORII, Teru                | MURANAKA, Kaoru Kay            | SHITAMI, Yone                    | YAMAMOTO, Hatsue          |
| IBUKI, Kiku                | NAGANO, Kumao                  | SMITH, Dr. Prof. Kenneth Carless | YAMAMOTO, Makino          |
| ICHIYEN, Seiichi           | NAGATA, Kaneichi               | SUGAMORI, Seitaro                | YAMAMOTO, Nobby           |
| ICHIYEN, Shozo             | NAKAGAWA, Masaru               | TAGUCHI, Moto                    | YAMASHITA, Haruyo         |
| IIZUKA, Kotsuru            | NAKAGAWA, Sasuke               | TAKAGI, Chiyoko                  | YAMASHITA, Shigecko       |
| INAMOTO, Dorothy Tomie     | NAKAMURA, Ted Teiji            | TAKAHASHI, Hideta                | YOSHIDA, Tomoko           |
| INAMOTO, Fujio             | NAKANO, Chiye Joan             | TAKAHASHI, Yoshi                 | YOSHIDA, Yasuyoshi        |
|                            |                                | TAKASAKI, Kaoru                  |                           |



**OBITUARIES**

*The Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the following individual(s) who have passed away.*

*If we have missed any names, please notify the Temple office so that we may update our records. Thank You*

*In Gassho*

*Toronto Buddhist Church - A Jodo Shinshu Temple*

|   |                |                       |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Mr. George Shiozaki</i>              | <i>92 yrs</i>  | <i>July 11, 2025</i>  |
| <i>Mr. Hideo Baba</i>                   |                |                       |
| <i>Mrs. Yoshiko Sakauye</i>             | <i>90 yrs</i>  | <i>July 19, 2025</i>  |
| <i>Mr. Akio Gene Shinya</i>             | <i>93 yrs.</i> | <i>July 22, 2025</i>  |
| <i>Mr. Paul Richard Stuart Crichton</i> | <i>86 yrs</i>  | <i>August 7, 2025</i> |

**MEDICLAYTION**

Patrick Johnston is a ceramics artist who lives in Venice, California, a part of Los Angeles. His studio is called the Temple of Mediclaytion. Johnston creates ceramic pots in a very unique,

moving way. He invites couples to come to the studio, where he has a fresh, unfinished clay pot sitting. The partners hug each other around the pot, squeezing one another and usually giving a kiss. If they have children, the kids might be part of the hug, too. When they're done hugging they step back, and see that the clay pot has been smushed by their embrace into a unique shape, with the indentations from where their arms and body were. Next, Johnston fires the pot and paints it, so it becomes a special, one-of-a-kind, large flower vase. The couple can then take it home.

This technique began with a friend of Johnston's, whose husband had cancer. The couple hugged each other around an unfinished pot just days before he passed away. It took her six months before she was ready to receive the pot, and when she did, she cried. When she put her arms around the finished pot, because it had the exact indentations from where her body went and her husband's body had gone, it fit into her perfectly and recreated the shape that his arms hugging her would produce. He was gone, yet this perfect trace of the impression he made on the world continued in his place. Every time she hugged the vase or put flowers into it, her husband was hugging her once again. And even when the vase sat by itself, it was a constant demonstration of how he had changed the world and continued to exert a loving presence in her life. I was really moved when I saw a video of many couples hugging each other, one after another, making their impressions in

Johnston's pots. Every time someone would hug, they couldn't help but give a big smile and lean in for a kiss. There were young couples and old ones, people who were living with terminal cancer, and pregnant women leaning their bellies in to press new life into the clay. For some, it was one of their very last hugs, very last kisses with their loved one. But looking at their vase afterward, they always know that the partner's presence in their life was real and enduring.

For me, this was an example of what the Dharma teaches. All of us are interdependent on one another. Every one of us makes a difference in the lives of everyone, whether that difference is tiny or huge. Because of that interdependence, none of us is a fully separate, fully independent, fully alone being. Rather, we inter-exist with each other and because of each other, and with everything and because of everything. Even when we are apart, the karmic impressions that we have made on each other continue, including past the point of living and dying.

We are like Johnston's unfinished pots. We are soft clay, whose shape comes about not simply because of our internal drives but also due to the effects of powers beyond ourselves. We are moulded by the love and caring that we receive from our families and friends in our immediate lives, from the environment and society around us, and at the deepest level, from Amida Buddha as the power of compassionate wisdom operating to produce our liberation. Our bodies and hearts are the visible sign, of those forces of care operating to produce us. Without the support of all that seems to be beyond us, we could not exist. As hard as it can be sometimes, we should look in the mirror and see the love and compassion that make our lives possible.

Continued on page 6

**MEDICLAYTION, continued**

When I saw those couples embracing around the pots, my heart immediately glowed and my head bowed forward. With a smile, I said “Namo Amida Butsu” even before I knew I was going to do it.

In Gassho

Jeff Wilson Sensei

**Recycle Your Chopsticks!**

What do you do with your take-out chopsticks after you're done with them? Throw them away? Wash and keep them at home, even though you probably have nicer chopsticks to use daily?

Why not recycle your chopsticks?

The temple has enrolled in a recycling program through Chop Value. This company brings new life to disposable chopsticks. We are given a

bin to fill with chopsticks, and once it is full, the team comes to pick it up. To find out the different things they do, please check

out their website! <https://chopvalue.com/en-ca>

If you have disposable chopsticks (waribashi) at home that you want to get rid of, please feel free to bring them to the temple for recycling! The bin can be found in the Social Hall by the other garbage bins!

In gassho,

Abigail Kataoka

**JULY-AUGUST THANK YOU'S**

- ◆ Donna Nakano and Sandra Izukawa for playing the organ at this month's service
- ◆ Sangha for the backyard bar-b-que
- ◆ To all those who came to the Annual Lumbini Picnic and helped make it an enjoyable day
- ◆ Naomi Knude, Christine Yamada, Myra Takasaki for helping Susan with tea toban after service
- ◆ Naomi Knude for bringing the obuppan
- ◆ Ross Yoshida, Brian Huynh and Ken Shigeishi for making sure we have a Zoom service.
- ◆ Les Tanaka for mowing the lawn make sure the Temple always looks neat
- ◆ Glenn Yoshida, Michael Tamaki, for installing the air conditioner at Camp Lumbini
- ◆ To those who have been delivering bentos to our seniors and to Myra for organizing everything
- ◆ To Elaine Takahashi for making all the bentos for the seniors in the program
- ◆ To everyone who helped get the Temple ready for the installation of the new carpet in the mezzanine. It was a huge task moving all the furniture. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!
- ◆ To all the volunteers who are always at the Temple to help out every day, week or month.
- ◆ To all those who have been volunteering at the funerals and memorials that have occurred.

We are always in need of volunteers. Please let the office know if you are available to volunteer or fill out the volunteer application on our website, [tbc@tbc.on.ca](mailto:tbc@tbc.on.ca). Let's have some new people to thank.

**We hope that you will join our new format toban group. Call the office or email Naomi Tsuji Tamaki at [ilovelucy3d@yahoo.com](mailto:ilovelucy3d@yahoo.com) with your questions or to join the group.**

## **Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada**

### **2025 Young Buddhists'**

### **International Cultural Study Exchange**



The ten days spent in Japan as a part of the 2025 YBICSE Canada group have been an amazing experience that I can only be thankful for, as I was fortunate enough to partake in this opportunity with many other youths from Brazil, Hawaii and the United States, following Jodo Shinshu Buddhism like me.

The first full day of the youth tour, the 1st of July, was more like an icebreaker. We did simple introductions and spent time getting to know each other in a group, as we toured the 2025 World Expo in Osaka. This day was more of a recreational activity to help us grow closer together as a group and form friendships that will only make the rest of the trip more enjoyable.

Then on July 2nd, we departed on a train from Kansai Airport in Osaka to Kyoto. That day was almost a continuation of the purpose of the prior day, as we just spent time together as a group, going sightseeing around the neighbourhood near Nishi Hongwanji Temple.

On July 3rd, we got our first taste of what the YBICSE program would be like, as this was the first morning we had to wake up for morning service at 6:00 am. Going as a group and being in the temple, chanting with the other groups, and some regular visitors of the temple was almost a new experience. The interior of the Nishi Hongwanji Temple felt very sacred and almost surreal as I never thought I would be able to experience that type of atmosphere. Afterwards, we had the official Opening Ceremony of the 2025 YBICSE program. Then we went to Hiroshima to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. This experience felt very raw and surreal as it gave a very heavy sense of the magnitude of damage the atomic bomb did.

Then on July 4th, we returned to Kyoto, visited the Kyoto Women's University and got to converse with some current students. This gave insight into our differences and similarities in lifestyles between all the people from different countries who participated in this study session. We then visited Sanju Sangendo Temple and all the 1001 different Buddha statues. I found it intriguing how they are all very similar, but each one was slightly different in its own way.

On July 5th, we continued our routine, which included morning service at 6:00 am at Nishi Hongwanji Temple. Then we toured Hongwanji National Treasures, visited Higashi Hongwanji Temple and Shinran Shonin historical sites, such as Mount Hiei and his Mausoleum. These offered more insight into Jodo Shinshu Buddhism as a teaching and, in my opinion, piqued my interest in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

To start July 6th, we went through our usual morning routine at Nishi Hongwanji Temple. Then we went sightseeing in Nara, which included visiting Todaiji Temple, Kofukuji Temple, and my personal favourite, walking through Nara Park with all the deer. The interior of the temples in Nara was very different in the sense that they were very tall instead of very long and wide. This contrasted with the usual environment we were in at Nishi Hongwanji Temple. Due to the temples being very tall, the Buddha statues inside were also very tall, especially the one inside Todaiji Temple, which was around 15m tall. We then ended the day with a rehearsal of how the Sarana Confirmation Ceremony would go.

On July 7th, we started with a normal morning service; however, we had to go dressed in semi-formal attire since we were attending the Sarana Confirmation Ceremony (Kikyoshiki) right after. This is when I received my Buddhist name (Homyo), unlike my grandparents, who did not receive their Homyo until their funeral service. We then got to make our own nenju. Then we had a study session with Rev. Gene Sekiya. The study session helped in directing my view on Jodo Shinshu Buddhist teachings as he talked about his life experiences following Buddhism. Unfortunately, we did not get to meet the Gomonshu, due to His Eminence having to deal with sudden urgent business. However, we did still offer presents and listened to a message delivered by a messenger. Then off to Tokyo by Shinkansen (the bullet train).

On July 8th, we started with morning service at Tsukiji Hongwanji. Afterwards, we got a tour of Tsukiji Hongwanji, followed by the official Closing Ceremony of the YBICSE program. Here, unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to our international friends with whom we had bonded with over the YBICSE program's duration. We shared our thoughts and parts about the tour that we enjoyed the most, said our goodbyes, and then continued the trip with our Canada group.

Continued on page 8

**JSBTC 2025 YBISC article (continued)**

On July 9th, we spent all day enjoying ourselves, as this was the last day together with our Canadian group. We started by going shopping, then we luckily got to visit teamLabs as a special surprise from Bishop Aoki. We enjoyed this day to the fullest and finished it with a shabu shabu dinner. We then had to say goodbye to one of our group members. Then we headed back to the hotel to get some rest as we had to prepare to leave the next day

The YBICSE youth tour was a very fun and good opportunity for me, as it strengthened my interest in Jodo Shinshu

Buddhism and let me experience some more of its teachings. Living abroad and in a completely new environment that I wouldn't be able to find back home, being able to connect with many youths like myself, and being able to engage with people from around the world, all while learning more about what it truly means to be a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist. All of these experiences will help me to guide myself throughout my journey in life, and for this I am very grateful.

In gassho,

Thomas Tamagi-Wakabayashi

**WELCOME BACK TO KIDS SANGHA AND DHARMA SCHOOL**

Is this your first time?

No worries.

Everyone is welcome to join

Yes!



Our Dharma School is open to everyone and offers a warm, inclusive space to learn about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Our Sundays begin with a children's service, followed by Dharma School. The classroom program is taught by our teachers in a positive interactive fun environment.

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Children's Service / Dharma School 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**September's Theme: "Introductions and Fall Higan"**

7th - Rally Sunday

The children's service is held upstairs (2nd floor) mezzanine.

Dharma School (basement level)

14th - children's service in the Hondo (main floor)

Dharma School

21st - children's service in the Hondo

Dharma School - Ikebana Workshop (in the classroom)

28th - children's service in the Hondo

**no** Dharma school - children join the adult "family" service

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Please join us on Sunday September 7th, our first day back at Temple after the summer break.

With gratitude,

Kids Sangha / Dharma School



## How to donate to the Toronto Buddhist Church

The business of spreading the Shin Buddhist teachings to our sangha and beyond continues. Forwarding a financial donation will help prepare TBC to welcome everyone to the temple and continue to provide Zoom to those who cannot attend in person.

There are 3 ways to donate to TBC from home:

- **Cheque:** mail to 1011 Sheppard Ave. West, Toronto, ON, M3H 2T7
- **E-transfer (is now auto-deposit):** use email address **darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca**
- **online donation via PayPal:** follow directions on [www.TBC.ca](http://www.TBC.ca) "Make a Donation" page

Please include the purpose of your donation, as well as, your **full name, mailing address, email address, and phone number. This is particularly important if you're donating by cheque or e-transfer.** This helps ensure you will receive a donation receipt for tax purposes. Detailed information can also be found on the TBC website: [www.tbc.on.ca](http://www.tbc.on.ca). Your donations are always greatly appreciated.

Gassho

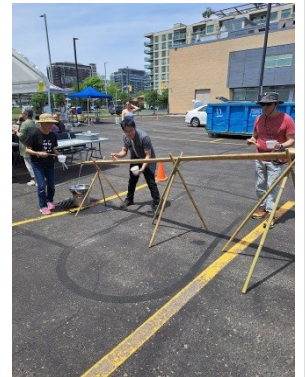
Toronto Buddhist Church



**Note:** Please use only blue or black ink when writing a cheque. The bank's cheque reader cannot read coloured ink. Thank you for your co-operation



### SANGHA BACKYARD BBQ, JUNE 15, 2025



### BRING JUST ONE THING

It's a new year and the rising prices of all foodstuffs continue to escalate and make family decisions difficult as to where their funds should be spent. Instead of a food drive, we encourage everyone who comes to the temple for either services or classes, to bring one non-perishable item from their cupboard; once or every time you attend Temple or whenever you think of it. This will be a year long project. Hopefully, this is less burdensome than donating a bag of food occasionally. Of course, we will also welcome bags of food if that is better for you. There will be a box in the lobby for donations. Food banks and neighbourhood pantries will benefit from your donations year round.

Please do not include food that is close to or past its 'best before date'.

Thank you for your generosity and for thinking of the less fortunate.



TBC

## **2025 TBC DANA SCHOLARSHIP**

On June 1, 2025 the TBC recognized and celebrated the five 2025 TBC Dana Scholarship recipients. To be awarded a scholarship, the recipients must not only have a strong academic record but must also contribute to the community/Sangha.

The 2025 Scholarship Recipients were Miss Nina Yoshida, Miss Mika Shimoizato, Miss Isabelle Choi, Miss Renee Baba, and Mr. Nathan Baba. All recipients had stellar academic achievement (with a combined average grade of 93%) as well as strong community involvement and extracurricular activities. Miss Yoshida will be going to McMaster University to study integrated business and humanities, Miss Shimoizato will be studying life science at the University of Waterloo, Miss Choi will be studying animal biology at the University Guelph, Miss Baba will be studying computer engineering at the University of Toronto (St. George Campus) and Mr. Baba will be studying life science at McMaster University.

Congratulations to all of the Scholarship Recipients. We wish you well on your academic journey and future endeavors.

The TBC Dana Scholarship Committee would like to thank the “TBC Toban Group” for the luncheon. It was a fabulous way to celebrate the accomplishment of our young members.





## GO-EN TO CAMP LUMBINI

Sunday, July 27th – Saturday, August 2nd, was a wonderful week for holding our annual Camp Lumbini at the temple cottages in Wasaga Beach. We had 3 new campers join us this year, totalling 12 campers! We also had 6 counsellors who did very well leading the campers through the various activities throughout the week.

We were very fortunate that Hashimoto Sensei, and Sugiura Sensei were able to join us for some fun at camp and lead us through Buddhism 101. Our Buddhist theme this year was Go-En. One of the translations is interconnections. The Senseis created a card game about Go-En, which was fun and really made you think about the interconnections of items we use every day. The campers and counsellors enjoyed this story-telling card game.

This year marked the 80th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Again, Camp Lumbini has collaborated with the Hiroshima Nagasaki Coalition Day group. Campers and counsellors made peace lanterns that were presented at Nathan Phillips Square during the event.

Camp Lumbini had raised funds over the year through various temple events. This year, we were able to use the funds to purchase 2 AC units. In addition, we are very grateful the temple purchased an additional AC unit totalling 3 new AC units in cabin 3. We had some very hot days up at the cottages, and were appreciative of these new units.

I'd like to give out some special thanks to everyone who made camp possible this year!

Thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers/cooks, Joanne Kataoka (Head chef/parent coordinator), Joanne Miyazaki (Sous chef), Cary Kataoka, Chris Yoshida, Michelle Kushida, Michael Tamaki, Naomi Tamaki, and Darlene Rieger.

Thank you to our coordinators, Rachel Kataoka, Koji Goto, and Stephen Taguchi. Thank you to our Sr. and Jr. Counsellors, Joaquin Kataoka, Shohei Hayakawa, Maya Yoshida, Mika Shimosato, Mie Choi, and Kiyo Choi

Thank you to Mizuki Shimosato for designing the t-shirts for this year. And thank you to Rachel, Mai, Sugiura Sensei and Risa for hand-screen printing the shirts!

Thank you to these people for making camp possible. We have successfully closed off another year of Camp Lumbini! We hope to see you all again next year for Camp Lumbini in 2026!

In Gassho

Abigail Kataoka





# Buddhist Education Class

A Gateway to Shin Buddhism

## Reading The Tannisho



Only Online (ZOOM)

The Fourth Friday 7PM-8PM

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>October24</b>  | <b>Introduction &amp; Preface</b> |
| <b>November28</b> | <b>Chapter 1</b>                  |
| <b>December26</b> | <b>Chapters 2 &amp; 3</b>         |
| <b>January23</b>  | <b>Chapters 4 &amp; 5</b>         |
| <b>February27</b> | <b>Chapters 6 - 8</b>             |
| <b>March27</b>    | <b>Chapters 9 &amp; 10</b>        |

**Suggested Donation:**

**Minimum \$15 (for tax receipt).**

**Additional contributions are warmly appreciated.**



**Pre-register here  
(required)**



Just off Sheppard West station!!  
A Jodo Shinshu Temple

**Toronto Buddhist Church**

1011 Sheppard Avenue W.  
Toronto, ON M3H 2T7

Contact information : Rev. Hashimoto

☎ 416-534-4302

✉ tbc@tbc.on.ca



## 2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

*In the case of couples, please complete information for each applicant individually.*

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Applicant    Renewal (   )    New (   )  | Mr. (   ) Mrs. (   ) Ms. (   ) |
| Last Name: _____   | Birthdate: dd/mm/yy: _____     |
| First Name: _____  | Email: _____                   |
| Address: _____   | Phone: _____                   |
| City: _____  | Signature: _____               |
| Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____   |                                |
| <p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2025 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by <b>May 31, 2025</b>. By signing this Membership Application, I hereby adopt the vows below.</p> |                                |
| Signature _____ Date _____   |                                |
| I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me - English Only _____ English/Japanese _____  |                                |

### NEW MEMBER PLEASE SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF.

**As a member of Toronto Buddhist Church, I:**

1. Recognize and accept that our Temple is based on the Jodo Shinshu Pure Land Teachings;
2. Vow to strive to live a life of gratitude and to do my best to care for the welfare of society; and
3. Vow to observe and uphold the Charter and By-laws of the Temple.

トロント仏教会の護持会員として、次の通り誓約いたします。

- 1、お寺を浄土真宗のみ教えに従う人々が集うところとします。
- 2、報恩感謝の生活を送り、自他ともに心豊かに生きることのできる社会の実現に貢献します。
- 3、会則を厳守します。

Please note that this application is for membership from **January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025**. The Individual Membership Fee for 2025 is a minimum of \$160. However, the Temple welcomes and will be grateful for any amount over and above this minimum fee.

A tax receipt will be issued for the total Membership amount paid.

Please do not use Offering envelopes to pay membership fees. Instead, please insert them in separate plain envelopes clearly marked "For Membership". Please make any cheques payable to *Toronto Buddhist Church*.

**A SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL APPLYING. PLEASE SUBMIT A SEPARATE PAYMENT FOR 'MEMBERSHIP ONLY'. PLEASE DO NOT COMBINE WITH DONATIONS.**

## TBC PROMOTING PEACE AT 80TH ANNIVERSARY

### OF THE BOMBING

### OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

Hiroshima Nagasaki Day Coalition (HNDC):

This is an annual commemoration of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki held in Nathan Phillips Square (City Hall) in August to highlight the dangers of nuclear proliferation and war. As in previous years, one of the key highlights was the opportunity to hear Setsuko Thurlow, who, as a 13 year old girl, survived and suffered from the bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

This year, the HNDC sponsored commemoration marked the 80th anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and was a big success, thanks in part to TBC's support of making lanterns and origami. The Camp Lumbini children made dozens of lanterns, which were supplemented by volunteers and those passing by who wanted to message their concerns for peace with a beautiful lantern or origami crane.

Thanks to all of our volunteers, with a special thanks to Joanne and Abigail Kataoka for supporting the children's crafts at Camp Lumbini, as well as Kozue Sawahara, who led a crew of volunteers to help out at the lantern and calligraphy tables.

Les Tanaka





## **SOUP PACKING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE. COME JOIN US!**

Through TBC's relationship with Sharing Sacred Spaces (SSS), a multi-faith organization that unites different religions in Toronto around community-based projects, we are planning for a community-based food assistance initiative involving packaging dried, easy-to-prepare soup containers for the less fortunate on September 25, 2025:

This involves putting together dried, ready mix soups in an assembly line fashion, including adding beans/lentils, rice and seasoning, for those in need.

In our previous soup packing effort, SSS, with the help of interfaith members and TBC's Alex Badila, successfully packed 1,000 soup containers on April 24, 2025

Come join us on Thursday, September 25, 2025, where we will target packing an incredible 5,000 containers !! All are welcome!

We will start packing at 6:30 pm at the Church of Latter Day Saints located at 24 Ferrand Dr., which is southeast of the intersection of Don Mills Rd and Eglinton Ave E.

It's a fun-filled group activity serving a great need. If you would like to help out, please contact Les Tanaka (les.s.tanaka@gmail.com) or Susan Ebisuzaki (susanhebisuzaki@gmail.com)



## **WHITE ELEPHANT SALE DONATIONS**

Are you de-cluttering or downsizing your home? The Toronto Buddhist Church is looking for donations for the Bazaar's White Elephant Sale.

We will be accepting donations beginning in October.

Donation Items: household items, electronics, hand tools, garden tools, power tools.

Please contact the office for more information 416-534-4302



Please join us



# Karaoke Party

At Toronto Buddhist Church

Every one Welcome !!

Enjoy a half day with us !!

Saturday, October 25, 2025

TBC Social Hall 12:00 Noon Starts  
\$15.00 Incl. Bento, Bingo, Odori,  
Japanese Enka song and more !!

Ticket : Please contact  
George 416-513-0999  
Jessica 416-733-1894

**Toronto Buddhist Church Karaoke Club**

